

## **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

## NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BRANCH

Washington, D.C. 20570

## Via email

November 25, 2022

Re: FOIA Request NLRB-2023-000343

Dear Haleluya Hadero (The Associated Press):

This is in response to your request, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, received on November 17, 2022, in which you seek "the unfair labor practice charge against SpaceX filed on November 16, 2022 at the NLRB's Region 31-Los Angeles office." You requested a fee waiver for processing your request. You also requested expedited processing.

We acknowledged your request on November 17, 2022. Your request for expedited processing was granted on November 21, 2022.

A search of the Agency's electronic casehandling system, NxGen, has been conducted. This search located eight separate charges filed against *Space Exploration Technologies Corp.*, all filed on November 16, 2022, with the following Case Numbers: 31-CA-307446, 31-CA-307514, 31-CA-307525, 31-CA-307532, 31-CA-307539, 31-CA-307546, 31-CA-307551, and 31-CA-307555. The charges for each of the eight cases are attached.

After a review, I have determined that portions of the attached records are exempt from disclosure under Exemptions 6 and 7(C) of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and (b)(7)(C)). Specifically, redactions have been made to protect the privacy interests of individuals named in the records. These redactions were made pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, which pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, and FOIA Exemption 7(C), which pertains to records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and (b)(7)(C).

I have also determined that the one page "addendum" to the charge and 36 pages of attached documentary evidence (Exhibits A and B) are being withheld in full at this time pursuant to FOIA Exemption 7(A). 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A). Exemption 7(A) allows an agency to withhold records included in an open investigatory file where disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with

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a pending enforcement proceeding. See NLRB v. Robbins Tire & Rubber Co., 437 U.S. 214, 236 (1978). The addendum and documentary exhibits attached to each charge are evidentiary records which if disclosed at this time could harm or interfere with the ongoing investigations before the Region, and thus, are being withheld in full at pursuant to Exemption 7(A).

Please note that the Exemption 7(A) protection is "temporal in nature." *Citizens for Responsibility & Ethics in Wash. v. Dep't of Justice*, 746 F.3d 1082, 1097 (D.C. Cir 2014) (citing *NLRB v. Robbins Tire*, 437 U.S. 214, 223-24 230-32 (1978)). As such, case file records may become disclosable, subject to applicable exemptions, after the cases close, that is, once a Board decision and/or court order issues, there has been full compliance with a settlement, or the cases have otherwise been closed under Agency procedures. Accordingly, you may wish to file a new request at that time.

The status of these eight cases can be tracked on the Agency website at www.nlrb.gov by going to the Cases & Decisions tab, clicking case search, entering each case number in the search box, and viewing the case page.

For the purpose of assessing fees, we have placed you in Category C, as a representative of the news media, in that you qualify as a person "actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public." NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(1)(vii). Accordingly, there is no charge assessed for this request. Given your placement as a news media requester, your request for a fee waiver is moot.

You may contact Jodilyn Breirather, the FOIA Specialist who processed your request, at (414) 930-7208 or by email at Jodilyn.Breirather@nlrb.gov, as well as the Agency's FOIA Public Liaison, for any further assistance and/or to discuss any aspect of your request. The FOIA Public Liaison, in addition to the FOIA Specialist, can further explain responsive and releasable agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, and/or discuss how to narrow the scope of a request in order to minimize fees and processing times. The contact information for the FOIA Public Liaison is:

Kristine M. Minami FOIA Public Liaison National Labor Relations Board 1015 Half Street, S.E., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, D.C. 20570 Email: FOIAPublicLiaison@nlrb.gov Telephone: (202) 273-0902

Fax: (202) 273-FOIA (3642)

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After first contacting the Agency, you may additionally contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS College Park, Maryland 20740-6001 Email: ogis@nara.gov

Telephone: (202) 741-5770 Toll free: (877) 684-6448 Fax: (202) 741-5769

You may obtain a review of this determination under the NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(c)(2)(v), by filing an administrative appeal with the Division of Legal Counsel (DLC) through FOIAonline at: https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home or by mail or email at:

Nancy E. Kessler Platt Chief FOIA Officer National Labor Relations Board 1015 Half Street, S.E., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, D.C. 20570 Email: DLCFOIAAppeal@nlrb.gov

Any appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal should contain a complete statement of the reasons upon which it is based.

Please be advised that contacting any Agency official (including the FOIA Specialist, FOIA Officer, or the FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not an alternative or substitute for filing an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

ISI Synta E. Keeling

Synta E. Keeling FOIA Officer

Attachment: (eight pages)